

COMMUNITY NEWS



COMMUNITY GROWTH was celebrated Friday, July 8, when a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the upcoming construction of the new S & B Food Mart and Restaurant that will be built at the intersection of Alabama Highway 87 and Alabama Highway 134 near the Damascus and Ino communities. The new 5,000 square foot facility will be home to a full service convenient store and restaurant. Store owner, Tim Sanders, said the restaurant should accommodate seating for approximately 100 people. Construction of the building was set to start sometime this week, depending on Hurricane Dennis, and Sanders said hopefully it will be completed by the first of October. Joining Sanders (holding the shovel) for the groundbreaking ceremony were family, friends, employees and representatives of The Peoples Bank of Coffee County.

Applications for Miss C.C. Agriculture pageant available

Applications of Miss Coffee County Agriculture are now being taken. The deadline for these is July 18, 2005.

New Brockton Methodist Church VBS to be held July 18-22

New Brockton Methodist Church is planning vacation bible school for Monday thru Friday July 18-22 from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. All children are invited to attend.

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Shower 7/24/05 Wedding 8/6/05

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Garden & Gift Shoppe
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AEC completes hurricane restoration efforts

By 6 p.m., Monday, July 11, Alabama Electric Cooperative (AEC) personnel and contract crews had successfully restored power to substations in AEC's transmission system that sustained damage caused by Hurricane Dennis.

Tuesday morning, crews were repairing the final sections of damaged line, replacing power poles and restoring insulators. The basic infrastructure should be repaired and all contract crews released today, according to Larry Avery, AEC vice president, engineering and operations.

"We still have a few leaning trees and limbs that need to be trimmed or removed, but we expect to have that completed within the next seven to 10 days," says Avery.

"All the support was excellent during Hurricane Dennis and the restoration process," says Avery. "This operation was managed very well, and we'd like to thank everyone who dedicated their time and efforts."

"While AEC's transmission system sustained minor damage, we recognize this could have been much worse," says Cathryn Gibson, AEC manager, corporate communication. "Our employees were prepared to respond to conditions expected to be much worse when it became apparent the storm was a threat to our service area. Our employees are to be commended for their commitment to safety and for their impressive response to restore power to our transmission system as quickly as possible. We are extremely fortunate to have such a high-caliber group of employees."

Hurricane Dennis caused significantly less damage to AEC's transmission system than initially expected. The storm made landfall at 2:25 p.m. CDT Sunday on Santa Rosa Island, Fla., between Navarre Beach and Pensacola Beach as a Category 3 hurricane and then fizzled into a tropical depression by early Monday.

The majority of AEC's outages occurred in Clarke County, Ala.; Escambia County, Ala.; Conecuh River in Alabama; the Escambia County, Fla.; and Washington County, Ala. Approximately 100 AEC personnel and contract crew workers were dispatched for system restoration efforts.

A Touchstone Energy® cooperative, Alabama Electric Cooperative is a \$1 billion generation and transmission cooperative headquartered in Andalusia, Ala. AEC's generating facilities include the James A. Vann Jr. Power Plant in Gantt, Ala.; the Charles R. Lowman Power Plant in Leroy, Ala.; the Maury A. McWilliams Steam Power Plant in Gantt, Ala.; the McIntosh Plant in McIntosh, Ala.; the Gantt and Point A hydroelectric plants on the Conecuh River in Alabama; the Portland Gas Turbine in Walton County, Fla.; and an ownership interest in the James H. Miller Electric Generating Plant in Birmingham, Ala.

The unexpected news of the death of former Elba High School football coach Mack Wood sent shockwaves through the Elba community this week. Wood, the all-time winningest coach at Elba High School, spent 18 years at the helm of the football program before retiring from the school in 1994. Today, his winning ways continue to be recognized as part of Elba Tiger Football Tradition.

The hard-nosed football coach best described in Elba as a "winner" died early Sunday morning, July 17, at Medical Center Enterprise after being admitted Saturday. He was 66.

Mack Russell Wood was born Feb. 26, 1936 in Greenville, Ala. He was a graduate of Greenville High School, East Mississippi Jr. College and Troy State University where he lettered in football and baseball.

Coach Wood began his coaching career as an assistant in Auburnville, Fla. He was named head football coach at Geraldine High School in 1964.

Two years later, Coach Wood moved to T.R. Miller High School, Brewton, Ala., where he coached for six years. During his stint at T.R. Miller, Wood led his 1969 team to the state championship.

After leaving T.R. Miller,

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Coach Wood's winning tradition at Elba High School was recognized last October when he was honored by the City of Elba as the football field at Tiger Stadium was named "Mack Wood Field."

Wood's overall coaching record was 214-89-4. Those close to Coach Wood have said he credited much of his success to a strong belief in the work ethic which dates back to his days as a farm boy in Butler County. However, others sum his football philosophy up to the words on a plaque that

read, "I truly believe this."

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Blair said he takes his job as the school resource officer very seriously because his heart is up there at the Elba City Schools for several years before leaving to spend approximately a year and a half working for the state.

After what Blair called a lot of prayers and prayer answering, he found himself returning recently to resume his old position. "I'm here because this is where God wants me to be," he said.

Being a parent, Blair said he understands the importance for a parent to have the security in knowing his/her child is safe while at school.

"We're here to educate students, but we're also here to make sure they are safe," Weeks said. "I think the people of the community feel comfortable with Officer Blair because they know he has the best interest of the students in mind."

Blair said he doesn't view himself as being at the school for enforcement. Instead, he

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celebration

INSIDE

Kenna Roberts
crowned Miss
Sound of Music

INSIDE

Michael Spurrin
makes the catch
in district
tournament action

The Elba Clipper

Volume 109, Number 6

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 21, 2005

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Longtime Elba football coach Mack Wood dies at age 69

by Linda Hodge, Editor

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used to hang in the Elba Tiger locker room. "Be the best you can be - today!"

Coach Wood inherited an Elba football program in 1977 that had suffered through a series of losing seasons. Promising nothing more than teams that would be prepared and would give 110 percent every minute of every game, he quickly turned the program into one of the winningest in the state.

Wood's promise held especially true with the 1989 state championship team as the players went undefeated on the home turf that year, scored 399 points, gave up only 130 points and scored their playoff opponents 120-17.

Since his retirement from coaching, Wood enjoyed playing golf at the Enterprise Country Club.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, July 21 (TODAY), from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba at 10:30 a.m. The service will be officiated by Rev. Marshall Crenshaw, who was a member of Wood's 1969 state championship team at T.R. Miller High School.

Burial will follow at 2:30 p.m. in the Ebenezer Methodist Church Cemetery, Pigeon Creek, Ala. (near Greenville).

Please see the obituary section on Page 3 for additional information.

After returning to work for Elba PD as School Resource Officer

Officer Dean Blair feels a sense of "coming home"

by Linda Hodge, Editor

If the dictionary had a picture example of a school resource officer, Elba City Schools Superintendent Danny Weeks said it should be a picture of Dean Blair.

"Officer Blair is the 'dean' of school resource officers," Weeks said. "He has the personality and ability to reach the students. With him, the students have someone they respect and can talk with."

Officer Blair served as the D.A.R.E. officer/School Resource Officer for the Elba Police Department and Elba City Schools for several years before leaving to spend approximately a year and a half working for the state.

After what Blair called a lot of prayers and prayer answering, he found himself returning recently to resume his old position. "I'm here because this is where God wants me to be," he said.

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FROM THE ELBA CLIPPER FILES...Coach Mack Wood is shown above surrounded by his players and fans while being interviewed by the media following a big win during the 1992 state championship season. This particular win came during the semi-final round of the state playoffs when the Elba Tigers beat Asheville 21-14. Coincidentally, it also was the final regular season or playoff game held at Elba's Miller Memorial Stadium. The following week, the Elba Tigers defeated Lamar County to become the 1992 Class 3A State Champions.



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New Brockton Town Council holds brief meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council held a brief meeting

Monday evening, July 11, with council members taking time to thank the town employees for their work during the stormy weather recently caused by Hurricane Dennis.

Mayor Charles Cole thanked the police and street department employees for making themselves available during the storm.

Luckily, he said the town did not have much damage to speak of as a result of the storm.

Cole was joined by council members in thanking the employees for the "good job" they have been doing.

"When a person does a good job, you need to tell and encourage them," council member Johnnie Herron said. "Our employees seem to be doing a good job, and we thank them."

In an update regarding the town's housing rehabilitation project, Cole said, as of July 11, 11 houses had been completed, eight were being worked on and several others were waiting on approval.

He said so far no major complaints had been reported from the project as the work crews seem to be doing a good job pleasing to the homeowners.

Council members approved a resolution to reject bids for the downtown sidewalk paving project and readvertise the project. Mayor Cole said the bid received for the project was too high.

Council members also approved a resolution to enter into agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for a grant regarding drainage improvements on Tyler Street.

Assistant police chief Dale Grimes presented the monthly report from the police department.

During the month of June, Grimes said officers with the department wrote one driving under the influence citation, 15 speeding citations, two no driving off trouble.

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Please See TOWN, Page 3

ATTORNEY GENERAL TROY KING was the guest speaker at the Elba Rotary Club on July 12th. He addressed a number of issues his office has faced during his first years in office.

The new Alabama Open Meetings Law is something he is especially proud of having openly supported. His approach to public officials was that if they had nothing to hide, they should embrace this new law as a way of assuring the public of their honesty.

Of special interest to Coffee County citizens was his statement that he "would not rest until Billy Joe Magwood gets his just punishment." Magwood has been on Alabama's death row for years for the 1979 killing of Sheriff Neil Grantham. Appeals keep delaying the carrying out of his death sentence.

King was critical of the recent Ten Commandments decision by the U.S. Supreme Court. He said it is "confusing."

He also defended the filing of briefs in out of state law cases, noting that decisions in those cases could have a direct impact on Alabama laws. King also defended his crack down on illegal gambling.

Pictured above from left are: Rotary president Josh Wilson, King, Kaye Whitworth, whose program this was and Mickey Murdock who introduced Elba native and AG Troy King.

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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

Elba rumbled Sunday and Monday as news spread of the unexpected death of former Elba football coach Mack Wood. The longest distance contact we personally received wanting confirmation was from Birmingham but there were bunches in between here and Birmingham. He touched a lot of people during his lifetime and it is a credit to the respect he - - well that he earned - - to have so many people respond as they have to this sudden death. He had gone home from some "minor" surgery and was doing well. Suddenly he began hurting, returned to the hospital and you know the rest of the story.

By now our readers know the tone of the Alabama legislature as they went back into special session hours Tuesday evening after this being written. While there have been verbal dreaming of them getting in and out of this session in five days - don't hold your breath that it will happen. That might have been possible with only the General Fund to consider, but the Governor's agenda for the called session has more than five days of work in it. Add in the bills (good ones and not-so good ones) individual lawmakers will introduce and it becomes a question of "will they pass anything?"

If you have tried every diet ever introduced and are still not happy with your weight, here is another, rather unusual diet. It may work, if you live. It is called the "nutty diet". This one has dieters eating 100 nuts each day, thus the name. People will try this one and some will swear it works. However the real experts continue to tell us that a safe, sure diet is one which continues to be a balanced meal and cuts the calorie intake to less than what is being burned in a person's daily activities. Don't like that advice and the nutty diet doesn't work? - then there is the story of the lady who lost her excess weight by eating every meal at one of the last few restaurant chains - a take off on the Subway advertisements. Now most folks would probably drop pounds at any one of those eating establishments. Eating the same thing day after day is probably rather boring, thus the lost interest in food equals lost appetite, fewer calories and fewer pounds.

Attorney General Troy King is not afraid to step into the lion's den. More than once we have heard reports of him taking action or positions contrary to the advice of political "experts". Last week he confirmed one of those stories as being the truth. He had been advised to NOT attend a certain convention because of bad blood over one of his stated positions. He not only went anyway but again bucked the tide by ignoring advice to NOT mention that certain touchy subject. His positive spin on the matter gained him a standing ovation from the convention attendees - and ultimate active, open support for his position from the organization. Now that is called taking lemons and making lemonade! Those who opine that Troy can't win a full term on his own, need to stop and listen to him talk and look back on the way he has handled the duties of the office while there. Does that mean everyone loves him, we doubt that. Jesus Christ was nailed to the cross, not because he was bad or even wrong, but because some felt he was a threat to their little apartheid. Troy King is also a threat to some appeasers - - like maybe the ones trying to sell the rotten apples.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, July 11, 2005, investigated the following incidents: one illegal possession of a debit card, two for domestic violence, one theft of property, one criminal mischief, one assault, one public intoxication, one found property, one lost phone, one possession of marijuana, one possession of a controlled substance, two for possession of drug paraphernalia, two for burglary, one disorderly conduct and one damage to property.

The following arrests were made: one for domestic violence, one for public intoxication, one for theft of property, one for possession of drug paraphernalia and one for disorderly conduct. Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: two for reckless driving, two for a revoked driver's license, one for fleeing police, two for not wearing a seat belt, two for no driver's license, two for no insurance, one for not using a child restraint, one for attempting to elude, one for speeding, one for no tag and two for an open container.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:
MONDAY, JULY 11 - River stage - 10:35 feet (6:21 a.m.);

Domestic disturbance reported from 1855 Hickman Ave. (7:57 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1032 Martin Luther King Dr., Lot 9 (11:30 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JULY 12 - River stage - 9:55 feet (6:54 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to County Rd. 133 (8:32 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 561 E. Davis St. (1:46 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 - Possible prowler reported at 801 Putnam St. (12:13 a.m.); River stage - 9:55 feet (7:00 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 8193 Hwy. 87 S. (7:28 a.m.).

THURSDAY, JULY 14 - Prowler reported at 875 Cedar Lane Dr. (12:56 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 14265 Hwy. 14 (9:33 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported at Beaver Dam Apts., Bldg. E (11:30 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JULY 15 - River stage - 10:35 feet (6:15 a.m.); Burglary reported at 626 Jackson Ave. (7:05 p.m.); Possible disturbance (crowd) reported at the Shell station/Market Place parking lot (11:12 p.m.).

SATURDAY, JULY 16 - Coffee

Coach Mack Wood not soon to be forgotten in Elba

by Linda Hodge, Editor

I got a call Sunday afternoon asking if I had heard anything about Coach Mack Wood. At the time, I had not heard anything so my response was, "No. Why do you ask?"

I was told that rumor was he had died earlier that morning. I began checking the story and unfortunately soon found the rumors to be true.

I myself, did not know Coach Wood on a personal level, but I certainly didn't feel that way upon learning the sad news this week.

Football at Elba High School existed long before Coach Wood came to our small town, but I am too young to know anything about those days. The very first memories I have of attending an Elba Tiger football game, with my dad, include Coach Mack Wood standing on the sidelines.

I can remember as a small child going to the games knowing exactly who Coach Wood was and understanding the respect he received as Elba's coach. It was like one of those lessons you're taught from the beginning and never forget.

When I arrived at the office Monday morning, it was very clear something had to be written about Coach Mack Wood and the memories he helped create for this community. But, what would be the best way to

handle such a story?

Suddenly, I was reminded of a book I read some time back "Bleachers" written by author John Grisham in many ways reminds me of Elba's situation this week.

In the story, several former football players of a legendary coach in a small town have returned to the town because of a football coach who served as head football coach at Elba High School. Many accomplishments were achieved by his teams including two state championships, and I will always be proud to say I was there to witness many of those accomplishments.

One thing I will remember about Coach Wood is he seemed to demand and received respect from his players which ultimately led into the community. Whether you liked his methods or not, you understood what he was trying to accomplish and

is much different from circumstances surrounding Coach Wood's life and death. I bet there has definitely been a lot of sharing memories going on in our community this week. I know I've been thinking a lot about memories created from Friday nights of the past.

During the 18 years Coach Wood served as head football coach at Elba High School, many accomplishments were achieved by his teams including two state championships, and I will always be proud to say I was there to witness many of those accomplishments.

Since his retirement from Elba after the 1994 season, I can't think of a time when I've gone to an Elba football game and not heard someone speak of Coach Mack Wood.

On a larger scale, his name may not be as recognizable as Paul "Bear" Bryant or Shug Jordan, but in Elba, Alabama Coach Mack Wood created a legacy I know will remain intact for years to come.

He will be missed but never forgotten, especially on Friday nights at Tiger Stadium!



Coach Mack Wood shown speaking during a pep rally held at Elba High School prior to the football team departing for the 1992 state championship game.

American Cancer Society encourages colorectal cancer testing

The American Cancer Society is raising awareness that the third most common cause of cancer and cancer death in both men and women in the United States is largely preventable.

The Society estimates that this year 145,290 Americans will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer (commonly referred to as colon cancer) and 56,290 will die of the disease, a number that could be cut in half if Americans followed American Cancer Society testing recommendations for colon cancer. In Alabama, an estimated 2,300 people will be diagnosed with colon cancer in

2005 and approximately 890 people in the state will die of the disease this year.

Despite overwhelming evidence that testing can save lives, many Americans still are not following recommendations from the American Cancer Society to get tested starting at age 50. Colon cancer is the rare case in which testing can actually prevent the disease. Suspicious polyps (precancerous changes or growths in the lining of the colon and rectum) are removed before they turn cancerous. Thanks in part to increased test-

ing, colon cancer incidence rates decreased about three percent a year between 1998 and 2001.

Increased testing and improvements in survival have also led to a lower death rate, which has decreased an average of 1.8 percent per year over the past 15 years.

When colon cancer is caught early, it has a 90 percent survival rate. Still, fewer than 39 percent of these cancers are discovered at the earliest, most treatable stage.

"It's becoming clear that people 50 and older just do not see

themselves as being at risk for colon cancer and needing to be tested," says Amanda Roberts, RN, Health Initiatives Representative. "If we can increase awareness and compliance to the level we've done with the Pap test and the mammogram, we will have a tremendous opportunity to save thousands of lives through prevention and early detection."

For more information about colorectal cancer, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As we near a Senate vote on the flag amendment, which passed the House for the 6th time June 22, the hysteria in the media runs wild. They fear it could pass and in their frenzy they distort the facts. From recent radio and TV interviews it is clear to me that many of them have not read the amendment and do not understand its purpose or impact. Tragically, they mislead their audience and are blatantly unfair to the truth.

When his players needed someone to stand up and defend them, you could count on Coach Wood to do just that. And, when the team seemed to have its back against the wall in competition, Coach always seemed to know exactly what to say to get them fired up and pushing just a little harder.

Only those who were there know exactly what was said in those huddles when Coach Wood would go on the field during a time out, but what ever it was his players always seemed to respond. Man, it was exciting!!

Since his retirement from Elba after the 1994 season, I can't think of a time when I've gone to an Elba football game and not heard someone speak of Coach Mack Wood.

On a larger scale, his name may not be as recognizable as Paul "Bear" Bryant or Shug Jordan, but in Elba, Alabama Coach Mack Wood created a legacy I know will remain intact for years to come.

He will be missed but never forgotten, especially on Friday nights at Tiger Stadium!

TOWN

(Continued from Page One)

ver's license citations, and eight citations for no insurance.

He said the department investigated three traffic accidents, one theft of property, made one DUI arrest, two theft of utilities, one dog bite and one criminal mischief.

Grimes also said the fire department responded to one grass fire, one vehicle fire, one accident and assisted another department on one occasion. He said 13 dogs were picked up by animal control.

BLAIR

(Continued from Page One)

tenth grade students.

Also with the upcoming school year, Blair said he hopes to be involved not only with school activities but after-school activities involving the students.

Having an officer involved with such activities is something Weeks is very proud of because he said it is just another example of providing security for the

Commissioner Ron Sparks advises horse owners to vaccinate for EEE

Commissioner Ron Sparks announced that seven positive cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in horses have been found in South Alabama. Five horses were located in Baldwin County, one in Escambia County, and one in Mobile County. "Hurricane Dennis has made us extremely vulnerable to the spread of mosquito-borne viruses and we need to protect our livestock and ourselves," stated Sparks. "I want to encourage horse owners to vaccinate their horses for both EEE and West Nile Virus as soon as possible," stated Sparks.

EEE is a mosquito-transmitted disease that is much more severe than West Nile Virus (WNV). The mortality rate in horses from WNV is reported at around 30%, while the rate for EEE is almost 90%. Infected mosquitoes are the primary source for EEE. The virus causes inflammation or swelling of the brain and spinal cord. General symptoms include central nervous system signs such as: head pressing, convulsions, lack of response to facial stimulation, fever above 103 degrees, ataxia, paralysis, anorexia, depression, and stupor. Other symptoms may include irregular gait, teeth grinding, incoordination, circling, and staggering. All symptoms may not be exhibited by an infected horse.

Commissioner Sparks and State Veterinarian Dr. Tony

Frazier recommend vaccinating your horses every six months against both EEE and WNV. Horse owners are encouraged to contact their local veterinarian to schedule a vaccination for their horses. The public is also advised to make every effort to reduce human exposure to mosquitoes in the aftermath of Hurricane Dennis. The first human death in 2005 from EEE has been confirmed recently in a man in Escambia County and another patient is being treated in Baldwin County.

For more information about EEE or WNV, please contact Dr. Tony Frazier at 334-240-7253.

NOTICE

Elba's Lynda Berry was among 25 people to depart Sunday morning, July 17, headed overseas to feed and assist tsunami victims.

Berry said the Alabama Baptist group would be gone for two weeks, and although she said the group did not know exactly what to expect from the trip, they were scheduled to help in various areas of Thailand including Bangkok.

Don't forget to...

recycle

Don't forget to...

recycle

Don't forget to...

recycle

Obituaries

VINSON RAY WILSON

Mr. Vinson Ray Wilson, age 84, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, July 13, 2005 at Elba Nursing Home in Elba.

Graveside services were held July 16, 2005 at New Brockton City Cemetery with Reverend Winice Lolley and Reverend Harvey Chambliss officiating. Burial followed in the New Brockton City Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Mr. Wilson was preceded in death by a sister, Essie Payne, and a granddaughter.

Survivors include four daughters: Raylene Kilcrease, Elba, Darlene Williams, Slidell, La., Cuelene Wilson, New Brockton, Joeline Powers, Enterprise, Ala.; and five grandchildren.

BERNICE M. NICHOLS

Mrs. Bernice M. Nichols, age 85, of Elba, Ala., died Saturday, July 16, 2005 at the Elba Nursing Home.

Funeral services were held Monday, July 18, 2005 at Whitewater Baptist Church with Rev. Bruce Williams and Rev. Randall Pearson officiating. Burial will follow in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Mrs. Nichols was preceded in death by her husband, N.G. Nichols; parents, William S. and Martha S. Devane; a half brother, Daniel W. Smith; and Lanelle S. Arnold.

Survivors include a half sister, Ella Ballock, Bainbridge, Ga.; step brothers: Grover (Laverne) Smith, Frank (Connie) Smith and Donald H. Smith, all of Mobile, Ala.; one step daughter: Hazel Martens, Apple Valley, Calif.; and two step grandchildren.

MACK RUSSELL WOOD

Coach Mack Russell Wood, age 69, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, July 17, 2005 at Medical Center Enterprise in Enterprise.

Coach Wood will be remembered by his players, coaches, friends and fans as a winner.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, July 21, 2005 (TODAY), at 10:30 a.m. from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Marshall Craver officiating. Burial will follow at 2:30 p.m.

Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home. For details Call 897-2225.

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT ORIENTATION

Elba Elementary School will be hosting Parent Orientation prior to the beginning of school. Parents should accompany their child to school to meet his/her new teacher and other faculty members and to attend a short orientation program. Students may bring their supplies for the year at this time. Parents will be introduced to the school's new reading program, Reading Mastery Plus, and will receive valuable information concerning school policies and programs for the year. All parents and students are encouraged to attend this important meeting. For more information you may contact

Elba Elementary School at 897-2814. Class list will be given out at each orientation. Students of parents who do not attend orientation will receive their class assignment the first day of school. The orientation schedule is as follows:

Kindergarten - Monday, July 25, at 8 a.m. (at the beginning of Jump Start); First grade - Thursday, August 4 at 5:30; Second grade - Tuesday, August 2, at 6:00; Third grade - Thursday, August 4 at 5:00; Fourth grade - Tuesday, August 2 at 5:30; Fifth grade - Thursday, August 4 at 6:00; and Sixth grade - Thursday, August 4 at 6:00.

PASTOR'S CORNER

ROLANDA P. JONES

Youth Bible Instructor

Greater New Zion Baptist Church

When I was a little girl, my mom would always stress the importance of prayer. We had family prayer every Monday night. Two of the ladies from the church, Sister Shipman and Sister Wade would come over every other day to pray. They would even have each one of us pray. I couldn't understand why so much prayer. They had an unwavering belief that God would answer their prayers. My mom lived on the principle that if you developed a close and personal relationship with God, he would hear your prayers and answer them. She never doubted God.

My mom believed according to Matthew 21:21-22 "Verily, I say unto you, If you have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but ye shall say unto the mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. And all things whatsoever ye ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. The word mountain should not be taken literally. Your mountain could be anything from needing a better understanding of God's word to needing strength to get through hard times. Whatever your mountain may be if you have a firm belief in God and never doubt that he will answer, your mountain will be cast into the sea (removed out of your way).

In our nation today we have many mountains that need casting into the sea. We are living in a time where prayer is much needed. We are at war in Iraq (some of us have loved ones over there); we have terrorists attacks happening (people willing to commit suicide to hurt someone else); we have children going missing (disappearing never to be found); and the list can go on and on. When you look at things from the natural eye, things may seem as if they are out of control. If you look through the spiritual eye, they are not. When the whole world seems to be falling apart, God can keep us together. "The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in every thing by prayer and supplication with God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:5-7). Through prayer God can give us peace in the midst of it all. We have to trust him (walk by faith not by sight). Trust in him at all times, O people. Pour out your heart before him. God is a refuge for us (Psalms 62:8). My people it is a time for Prayer.

St. Beulah Missionary Baptist Church to be in revival services

The St. Beulah Missionary Baptist Church will be observing their Annual Revival Services throughout Friday, July 22, at 7 p.m.

The guest minister is the Rev. Melvin Owens of Mt. Zion of Lafayette, Ala.

Congregational Community Family Day planned at Mt. Olive Baptist Church

A "Congregational Community Family Day" is planned for Saturday, August 6, 2005 starting at 2 p.m.

Members of the church congregation will host a day of fun, food, and fellowship for the community, church, and anyone who would like to be a part of the fellowship. Many activities for the entire family have been planned including the main attraction, A Giant Water Slide, Bingo, Apple Bobbing, Fishing for Bible Facts, Sponge throw,

Johns Chapel AME Church to celebrate anniversary Sunday, July 24

Members of the Johns Chapel AME Church, 841 Geneva Highway in Enterprise, will celebrate their church anniversary on Sunday, July 24 at 10:45 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Members of the congregation will lead the order of service during the morning worship services, and music will be provided by the Sounds of Joy Fellowship Choir. The afternoon message will be brought by the Reverend Horace J. Fitchard, Jr., pastor of St. Paul AME Church in Ozark. Pastor Fitchard is a dynamic and insightful messenger of God and is known for his inspiring and thought-provoking messages. The Annual Revival Services will be held on July 25-27 at 7:00 p.m. nightly with Dr. Jackie Banks, Pastor of the New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Lanette, Alabama, bringing the revival messages. Dr. Banks, a gifted preacher and vocalist, is a former member of the original Soul Stirrers of Chicago and is a lead singer of the Five Trumpets, comprised of preachers and other church officers, have presented several concerts in the Enterprise area over the past several months. Pastor Carl McDaniel invites everyone to attend these services. For more information, please contact Anniversary Chaperson, Joyce Baxter, at 347-1952.

Huntingdon Admissions adds Summer Open House event

The Huntingdon College Office of Admissions has added one more opportunity for prospective high school seniors and their families to visit the campus this summer. Must See HC III, an open house program, will be held Thursday, July 21, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Must See HC III follows closely on the heels of two other very successful open house programs we offered earlier this spring. It will give students and parents who haven't yet made a decision about which college they will attend this fall the chance to see the campus and evaluate it in person," said

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA

897-2006

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 18:21-25

***THINKING OF YOU, PRAYING FOR YOU:

Rev. F. L. Flowers, Ida Martin, Leory Waters, The Purvis Family, Evelyn Manning, Dervin Luckett, Jadie Refugee, Diann Coleman, Betty Burks, Marie Tillis, Rona Love

***JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

Catherine Johnson - July 18, Charles and Angela Coon - July 18 (W.A.)

Theo and Nyeshia Johnson - July 19 (W.A.), Milton Cross - July 21, Ben Rayborn - July 21, Rev. Samuel Smith - July 23, Henry and Margaret Rowe - July 23 (W.A.)

***REVIVALS:

Homecoming and revival services will be held at the Star of Hope MB Church of Luverne, Ala. Homecoming will be July 24, 2005 at 2 p.m. with Pastor Michael Foster, pastor of Bethlehem MB Church of Greenville, Ala. Revival services will be held July 25-29, 2005 at 7 p.m. nightly. The evangelist of the week will be Rev. A.R. Williams, pastor of Rocky Head MB Church, Elba and Shiloh MB Church (Tarentum Community) of Brundidge, Ala. Homecoming and revival services will be held at the Friendship Baptist Church of Glenwood, Alabama. The Homecoming celebration will be Sunday, July 24, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. Eddie Stallworth of Brewton, Ala. Revival services will be held July 25-29, 2005 with the evangelist of the week being Rev. James Lloyd of Sweet Water Baptist Church in Highland Home, Ala.

Bethlehem Baptist Church will be holding their Homecoming and revival services. Homecoming services will be held at 2:30. The evangelist will be Rev. L.C. McMullins of Troy, Ala. The revival services will be at 7 p.m. nightly.

Revival services will be held at Holy Tabernacle Church of Deliverance in Andalusia, Ala. July 25-29 and at 7 p.m. nightly with Evangelist Min. James Starks of Baymette, Ala.

Revival 2005 at Pleasant Shade

MB Church of Enterprise, Ala. will be held August 8-12, 2005 at 7:15 p.m. nightly. Rev. C.C. Hammond, Jr., pastor is host of this revival with Rev. Rufus L. Wood, pastor of Love Center Baptist Church of Panama City, Fla.

***BENEFIT PROGRAM:

A benefit program for Sister Mattie Rodgers is to be held at the Oak Grove Baptist Church in Elba, Ala. on July 31, 2005 at 6 p.m. All groups, choirs, soloists and ministers are invited to participate in this helping hand. Minister Pam Mitchell will be the Mistress of Order.

***DISTRICT UNION:

The Mulberry Missionary Baptist District Ministers, Deacons and Laymen's Union will convene with the Rocky Head MB Church of Elba, Ala. on Sunday, July 30, 2005 at 9:45 a.m.

***THE GOSPEL TOUR:

The Gospel Tour will feature Glory Bound Gospel Singers of Cordele, Ga.; Flying Clouds of Brundidge, Ala.; The Mighty Oates of Joy of Luverne, Ala.; The Knight Family of Elba; and Minister Roderick of the Anointed Voices of Elba. This event will take place at 6 p.m. at Elba High School Auditorium, 371 Tiger Dr. Elba. For more information call Grace Daniels (334) 897-5152 or Marvin "Broad" Luckett, pastor.

***AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY:

Monthly Motivation: If you thing you are poor, you are poor. Wally Amos, entrepreneur. Timeline: July 16, 1990 Earl Graves and Earvin "Magic" Johnson purchased the largest minority controlled Pepsi-Cola franchise in the United States, headquartered in Washington, D.C.

The Black Inventors Museum was established in July 17, 1992 in Los Angeles, Calif. by Valerie J. Robinson, the museum's first financial donor was rap singer Ice Cube.

Did you know? After the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (July 2) was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, the number of African American voters in the south tripled.

Miss Green & Mr. Johnson to exchange wedding vows Saturday, September 3rd



Miss Green & Mr. Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Green, Jr. of Dothan, Ala., and Mr. and Mrs. Foyel D. Brunson, of Pinkard announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Celeste Green of Dothan, L. Wood, pastor of Love Center Baptist Church of Panama City, Fla.

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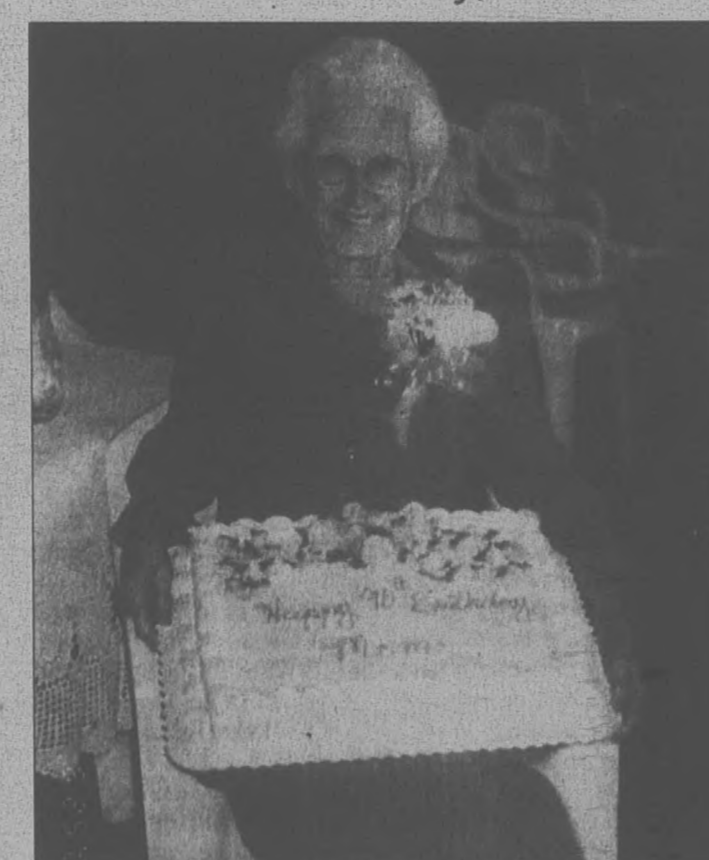
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Mrs. Arkie Hodge honored with 90th birthday celebration Sunday, June 26th



Mrs. Arkie Hodge is shown above with her beautiful birthday cake.

Mrs. Arkie Hodge celebrated her 90th birthday on June 26, 2005 at Elba Church of God fellowship hall from 2 to 4 p.m.

Family and friends came to celebrate with her. Everyone enjoyed cake and ice cream.

Those present were Eldest Johnson of Elba, Tony Johnson of Ozark, Bill and Bernice Hall of Montgomery, John, Tracy, and Brittany Rucker of Prattville, Irene Hodge of Elba, Agnes Holman of Kelleyton, Ala., Mary Hodge, Louise Cox of Elba, Daisy Lawson of Enterprise, Bryon and Jo of Elba, Robert and Shirley Hodge of Daleville, Hayward, Roxie, Barbara, and Faye Bowers of Brundidge, Totsey, Randolph, and Wayne Rending of Elba, Debra and Shannon Stephens of Montgomery, Bruce Hudson of Montgomery, Peggy McIntosh of Elba, Ray and Sybil Drum of Ozark, Wallace and Earlene Rushing of Elba, David and Dot Taylor of Elba, Don and Linda Flowers of Jack, Alma Spinks and Nell of Enterprise, Ronnie Walden of Elba, Sandra Noe of Montgomery, Margie Reed and Neil Johnson of Enterprise, Jeannette Wyrosdick and Troy Tyler of Elba, Louis Sumner of Elba, Rhoda Stuckey of New Brockton, Ron and Valarie Stallard of Elba, Beth and Ryan Johnson of Elba, Eddie and Kathy Bryant of Samson, Don Napper of Elba, and Ruby Nell Lawson of New Brockton.



Pictured seated: Mrs. Irma Warr-honoree; standing 1 to r - her daughters - Janet King & Sara Strong

Mrs. Irma Warr honored with 90th birthday celebration

The wedding is planned for September 3, 2005 at 2 p.m. at First Assembly of God on West Main Street, Dothan, Alabama.

Family and friends are invited to attend.

A reception of dinner and dancing will follow at The Basketcase Cafe, South Oates Street, Dothan, Ala.

Paul and Janet King and Kenneth and Sara Strong honored their mother, Mrs. Irma Warr, on her ninetieth birthday with a celebration at the Olde South Inn on Saturday afternoon, July 16, 2005. Family members greeted many friends and relatives and presented them to the honoree. After expressing birthday wishes and sharing many memories and old stories, guest were served punch from a silver punch bowl in the living room and then directed into the dining area for birthday cake. Chicken salad sandwiches, fresh fruit, and cheese straws were also served from the dining table covered with a hand cross-stitched cloth and centered with an elegant crystal candelabrum. Summer floral arrangements were displayed throughout the rooms where guests mingled and enjoyed the afternoon.

Annual McCollough/McCollough family reunion set for Sunday, July 24th

The annual McCollough/McCollough family reunion will be held Sunday, July 24, 2005, at the Enterprise Civic Center, Enterprise, AL. All direct and indirect descendants of Thomas (1804-1878) and Nancy (Allen) McCollough (1821-1907) of Coffee County, AL, family, and friends are invited to attend. The Cowpen Creek Band will provide entertainment at this year's reunion. Families may bring a covered dish which will be served at noon. Doors at the civic center will open at 10:00 AM for early arrivals, and remain open until 10:00 PM. If you have any family historical data or old family photos you'd like to share, please bring with you. We hope you join us for this annual family event. Further information may be obtained by contacting Junior McCollough at 334-347-6412 or Mrs. Judy McGhee at 334-393-4450.

Those present were Eldest Johnson of Elba, Tony Johnson of Ozark, Bill and Bernice Hall of Montgomery, John, Tracy, and Brittany Rucker of Prattville, Irene Hodge of Elba, Agnes Holman of Kelleyton, Ala., Mary Hodge, Louise Cox of Elba, Daisy Lawson of Enterprise, Bryon and Jo of Elba, Robert and Shirley Hodge of Daleville, Hayward, Roxie, Barbara, and Faye Bowers of Brundidge, Totsey, Randolph, and Wayne Rending of Elba, Debra and Shannon Stephens of Montgomery, Bruce Hudson of Montgomery, Peggy McIntosh of Elba, Ray and Sybil Drum of Ozark, Wallace and Earlene Rushing of Elba, David and Dot Taylor of Elba, Don and Linda Flowers of Jack, Alma Spinks and Nell of Enterprise, Ronnie Walden of Elba, Sandra Noe of Montgomery, Margie Reed and Neil Johnson of Enterprise, Jeannette Wyrosdick and Troy Tyler of Elba, Louis Sumner of Elba, Rhoda Stuckey of New Brockton, Ron and Valarie Stallard of Elba, Beth and Ryan Johnson of Elba, Eddie and Kathy Bryant of Samson, Don Napper of Elba, and Ruby Nell Lawson of New Brockton.

Ryan also plays ball with the Millbrook Angels. Her parents are Heather and Bob Floyd. Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Harrison.

Jackson Floyd turned 2 years of age April 21st, 2005. He had a party with his sister Ryan in the park at Millbrook. Jackson is the son of Heather Harrison Floyd and Bob. He is the great-grandson of R.D. and Leslie Harrison.

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Miss Vaughan Boyd entertained with family bridal luncheon

Miss Vaughan Boyd was honored with a luncheon on Saturday, June 25th, at Carlisle's on Main in Enterprise, when a large gathering of family and friends assembled to celebrate her upcoming marriage.

The historic design of Carlisle's, housed in one of Enterprise's oldest homes, was complimented by the garden flowers of summer used throughout the dining rooms. The antique mirror in the main dining room was centered with a tall crystal vase filled with blue and pink hydrangeas and sprays of yellow anemones by rose patterned demitasse cups.

The bride's table held a massive arrangement of the same flowers while the other tables were accented with a single hydrangea. In the foyer with where the guests registered, pink roses and baby's breath created a welcoming touch.

The hostesses presented the honoree with a corsage of pink rosebuds.

After the meal Debra Boyd led the guests in sharing amusing events relating to their own weddings.

Attending were Gloria Harper, Elaine Martin, Ella Jean Vaughan, Pam Baker, Myrna Cotton, Pat Williams, Jo Ann Cannon, Amorette - Helms, Harriette Boyd, Maggie Boyd, Janice Phillips, Kaze Bowman, Melissa Martin, Hope Boyd, Gypsy Smith, Sammy Morrow, Sonja Helms, Sally Helms, Lisa Turner, and Mary Sue Cain.

Hostess were Dixann Batchelor, Ann Boyd, Dana Boyd, Debra Boyd, Lynn Boyd, Sherrie Boyd, Debra Branch, Norma Desiri, Lisa Fuller, Joe Ann King, Susan May, Tammie Moore, and Lyra Fran Nelson.

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Church Directory

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, Ala. Richard Tharr, Sr. Pastor Morn. Worship.....10:30 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Night Service.....7:00 p.m.	DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Hubert McWaters Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m.	FATH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH Pastor: Don Grantham Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Discipleship Training.....5:00 p.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.	EANON BAPTIST CHURCH Bernard Strickland, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....6:15 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST Tim Gunnells, Minister Sunday School.....9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF GOD Rev. Ronald Barry Sun. Service.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:0
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Gail Murph Cooley graduates suma cum laude from Mt. Leo University



Gail Murph Cooley-valedictorian and Sheriff David Gee

Brandi Mathews graduates from Emory University

Brandi Mathews of Atlanta, from the Goizueta Business School of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, at its 160th commencement ceremony on May 16th, 2005.

Attend the church of your choice this Sunday!

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7:00 p.m.

Guests

Monday Night July 18

Speaker: Gary Winstead, Ino
Music: Terry Taylor, First Baptist, Dothan

Monday Night July 25

Speaker: David Richburg, Fleetwood Baptist
Music: Roger McLain, Westview, Opp

Monday Night Aug. 1

Speaker: Ken Harrison, Ponce De Leon, FL
Music: Nathan Carroll, Basin Baptist Church

On June 18, 2005, Gail Cooley, formerly from Elba, graduated suma cum laude from the MacDill Air Force Base campus of St. Leo University in Tampa, Fla. St. Leo University is a private Catholic University whose main campus is in St. Leo, Fla. Ms. Cooley received a B.A. degree in Criminal Justice. As valedictorian, she gave the farewell address to her classmates (120+) and their invited families and guests.

Hillsborough County Sheriff David Gee gave the commencement address at the graduation ceremony. Ms. Cooley was working for the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office full-time attending school full-time. In September, she will begin work on a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from St. Leo University.

Dinosaur stickers were given to all classmates over the age of 50, as Ms. Cooley stated that she and some other older students were referred to by some of her classmates as "dinosaurs". To the Director's delight - all classmates over 50 wore the stickers on their graduation gowns. Ms. Cooley explained the rationale behind the "wearing of the dinosaurs" and made reference to them in her speech.

Both of Ms. Cooley's children were present at the graduation ceremony. Her son, Christopher Cooley, 33, received a B.A. degree at Florida State University (Tallahassee), a M.A. degree from University of Texas (Austin), and a D.M.A. from the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. All degrees were in Piano Accompaniment. Dr. Cooley is a musician and still resides in Manhattan. Ms. Cooley's daughter, Carol Cooley, 27, received a Psychology degree from Flagler College in St. Augustine, Fla. She is currently employed at the Seminole Casino in Tampa.

Also, Ms. Cooley's brother and sister-in-law were in the audience - Jesse E. and Joni (Smith) Murph from Rome, Georgia, formerly of Elba. After the ceremony, over 25 friends and relatives enjoyed a luncheon and champagne toasts at a local restaurant.

Ms. Cooley is the former Gail Murph, daughter of the late Jesse G. Murph and the late Johnnie L. Murph of Elba. She graduated from Elba High School in 1965 and will be in Elba in October celebrating her high school class' 40 year reunion.

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Group of 2005 Zion Chapel Senior class members enjoy cruise

After-grad sales, bake sales, car washes, and other fund raisers and planning for a year, on Saturday, June 11th, 2005 eight members of the 2005 senior class of Zion Chapel High School and ten adults left Jack, Ala. for a wonderful seven night, eight day Caribbean cruise. After a long and rainy ten hour drive aboard a chartered bus, we arrived in Port Canaveral, Fla. and our first stop on Sunday was Nassau, in the Bahamas. There were several shore excursions enjoyed by everybody including going to the new straw market, taking a horse and buggy ride over the island, taking other tours of the island, shopping and taking a ferry ride to Paradise Island and seeing the resort Atlantis, with all its beauty and beaches and under water aquarium.

Upon returning to the ship they spent Monday at sea and arrived Tuesday at the island of St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands. After debarking from the ship, they again had several shore excursions to choose from including golf at the Mahogany Golf Course, tours of the island, walking along the beaches, shopping, and just taking in the

mountains and hills of the beautiful island. St. Thomas at night with all of its lights and boats in the harbor was a site to behold. They arrived at the island of St. Martin (on the Dutch side) or St. Martin (on the French side) on Wednesday morning and enjoyed a ten hour stay on this beautiful island resort. They could leave the ship and walk downtown or take one of the many shore excursions offered. These included tours of the island, jet skiing, boat rides around the island and 4x4 safari trip, scuba diving, a visit to the butterfly farm and a wonderful horseback riding tour around the island, shopping and riding in the Caribbean ocean. After a wonderful and glorious day on the beautiful and breathtaking island resort, the next two days were spent at sea on our way back to Port Canaveral.

Every day spent on the ship was a journey in itself as there were numerous events taking place at all times. There were Las Vegas style shows every night, numerous clubs for the students to enjoy, a casino open every time they were in international waters, games of bingo, a

not so newly wed game, magic shows, comedy shows, and musicals. In between all of the events they had to eat. Every night in the main dining room they were treated to a four course meal consisting of various appetizers, salad, entrees and desserts. This was casual dress except for two formal Captains Dinners. If formal dining is not your thing, there were numerous buffet lines at all times on other decks of the ship. The young adults who took part in this cruise represented themselves, their family, school and community in a very dignified manner. They are commended for their conduct and actions. Everyone had a great time.

Students on this cruise were Meta Gatlin, Kenna Roberts, Jamie Wise, Adam Spear, Bill Bludsworth, Clay Lewis, Jehle Flowers, Luke Taylor and Roy King.

Adults on this cruise were Glen and Gail Gatlin, Chris Lowery, Philip and Stacey Roberts, Danny and Jan Lewis, Siburne Modlin, and Buddy and Selena King.

Drew Floyd makes All Stars team in Millbrook

Drew Floyd made All Stars. He played with the Millbrook Dodgers. He is the son of Heather and Bob Floyd of Millbrook and the great-grandson of R.D. and Lessie Harrison of Elba.

Senior World Group to host Medicare Seminar in Dothan

In an effort to help area residents understand upcoming Medicare changes, the Senior World Group of Dothan will host a free Medicare seminar at Troy University Wednesday, July 20. The information session, which is co-sponsored by the Social Security Administration in Dothan, begins at 9:00 a.m. in Sony Hall on the Dothan Campus. To register, or for more information, contact the Troy University Continuing Education Center at 334-983-0005.



Sam Floyd

Sam Floyd wins medal in gymnastics

Sam Floyd was in gymnastics in Prattville. He won a blue ribbon and medal in the playoffs. Sam is the son of Heather and Bob Floyd of Millbrook and the great-grandson of R.D. and Lessie Harrison of Elba.

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Drew Floyd

ECCC to give GED Test

Due to a large demand, Enterprise-Ozark Community College has set an additional date for qualified persons to take the GED Test of High School Equivalency. The new date is July 19; the cost of taking the test is \$50. The ECCC testing center is limited to 20 persons per testing date. Pre-registration is required, and the deadline is 4:30 p.m., July 18. For more information, contact Dr. Nancy Smith at 334-347-2623, ext. 2295.

COMMUNITY NEWS



THE MISS SOUND OF MUSIC PAGEANT was sponsored recently by the Zion Chapel Rebel Band in conjunction with Band Day. The winners in the Miss category included: Kenna Roberts, Miss Sound of Music; Erica Lewis, first runner up; and Stacy Williams, second runner up.



THE MISS SOUND OF MUSIC PAGEANT was sponsored recently by the Zion Chapel Rebel Band in conjunction with Band Day. The winners in the Junior Miss category included: Toni Hodge, Jr. Miss Sound of Music; Samantha Bryan, first runner up; and Shay Sanders, second runner up.



THE MISS SOUND OF MUSIC PAGEANT was sponsored recently by the Zion Chapel Rebel Band in conjunction with Band Day. The winners in the Little Miss category included: Heather Blizet, Little Miss Sound of Music; Kelsey Sanders, first runner up; and Ashleigh DeSandro, second runner up.



THE MISS SOUND OF MUSIC PAGEANT was sponsored recently by the Zion Chapel Rebel Band in conjunction with Band Day. The winners in the Tiny Miss category included: Kinley Parker, Tiny Miss Sound of Music; Chelbie Fuller, first runner up; and Madison Grissett, second runner up.



THE MISS SOUND OF MUSIC PAGEANT was sponsored recently by the Zion Chapel Rebel Band in conjunction with Band Day. The winners in the Tiny Tot Miss category included: Brayton Martin, Tiny Tot Miss Sound of Music; Amber DeSandro, first runner up; and Miranda Hodge, second runner up.

Extension office plans "Reality Check" workshop for 7th-12th grade students

Alabama Cooperative Extension System will sponsor a "Reality Check" workshop for 7th - 12th grade students Thursday, July 21, from 5:30 - 8 p.m. at the Coffee County Farm Center coliseum in New Brockton.

The workshop will teach youth how to: budget and prioritize; write checks and balance a checkbook; understand the importance of education; appreciate their parents' responsibilities; and save for retirement and emergencies.

For those participating, a light meal will be served at 5:30 p.m.

Participants are given a monthly salary from a randomly selected career. They then proceed through "Realityville." Taxes, car payments, grocery bills, and rent payments are all part of the education process as students learn to prioritize their financial decisions. Students learn how to write checks, record transactions and manage their checking accounts; and are given the opportunity to establish savings accounts before spending their monthly salary on necessary and luxury items.

"Reality Check" is an educational program that provides 7th-12th grade students the opportunity to experience real life as if they were 25 years old and the sole or primary support of their household. "Reality Check" addresses financial management on a level that the students can understand. The students are taught the importance of managing money and how to properly provide for themselves as well as family. It gives students a greater perspective on what real life is all about and provides them with a better appreciation of what their parents go through.

ECCC's fall semester coincides with 40th anniversary
The 2005 Fall Semester will coincide with the 40th Anniversary Celebration for Enterprise-Ozark Community College.

As always, ECCC will offer a wide variety of courses for many programs this fall. All four locations, Enterprise, Ozark, Fort Rucker, and Mobile, will feature general education courses including math, science, art, music, English, history, social sciences, business, and computer science.

Kindergarten Jumpstart set for July 27 & 28 at Coffee County Schools

Coffee County Schools (Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel) will sponsor Kindergarten Jumpstart on Wednesday, July 27, and Thursday, July 28, from 8-11 a.m.

Jumpstart is a two-day program that allows incoming kindergarten students an orientation opportunity before the beginning of school.

Each day is three hours in length during which time the students are exposed to a mini-kindergarten schedule, allowed to tour the building and introduced to their teacher as well as several other staff members.

On the first day all students and parents are to report to the school library with their beginning school supplies. The students will then go with their teacher to the classroom. The parents will remain in the library for an orientation meeting with the principal.

When the meeting is completed, the parents will go to their child's room for a meeting with the teacher. During the parent/teacher meeting, the teacher will explain his/her discipline plan, class schedule, rules, drop off/pick up procedure for students, answer questions and collect lunch/snack money for the first week of school.

Jumpstart will begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 11 a.m. Parents will need to provide transportation for their child during this two-day session.

Sasser-Johnson wedding set for Saturday, July 23rd

David (Doc) and Brenda Johnson announce the forthcoming marriage of Randy Shane Sasser to their daughter Crystal Ann Johnson.

Shane is the son of James and Pat Kelley of Andalusia and W. Randy Sasser of Opp, and the grandson of Leamuel Killingsworth of Brantley and the late Eunice Killingsworth; Evelyn Sasser of Springville, and the late George W. Sasser. Shane attended Straughn High School and is employed in Elba.

Crystal is the mother of Kayla, Dalton and Avery. She is the daughter of Brenda Kay and David (Doc) Johnson of Elba and the granddaughter of Charlie and Nettie Hudson of Elba; Zedie Johnson of Elba and the late Allen Johnson. Crystal attended Elba High School.

The wedding is scheduled for Saturday, July 23, at 5 p.m. at Sanford Assembly of God. All friends and relatives are invited to attend.



Miss Crystal Johnson and Mr. Shane Sasser

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No Passes - No Wed. Discount

II - CHARLIE and the CHOCOLATE FACTORY (PG)
M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAS 2:15, 7 & 9:30
No Passes - No Wed. Discount

Westgate Center

III - WAR OF THE WORLDS (PG-13)
M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAS 2:15 & 9:30
No Passes - No Wed. Discount

IV - FANTASTIC 4 (PG-13)
M-F 7:15 & 9:30 - SAS 2:15 & 9:30
No Passes - No Wed. Discount

College Cinema - College Plaza

I - THE ISLAND (PG-13)
M-F 7 & 9:45 - SAS 2, 7 & 9:30
No Passes - No Wed. Discount

II - THE DEVIL REJECTS (R)
M-F 7:15 & 9:30 - SAS 2:15 & 9:30
No Passes - No Wed. Discount

III - WEDDING CRASHERS (R)
M-F 7:15 & 9:30 - SAS 2:15 & 9:30
No Passes - No Wed. Discount

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SPORTS

Views From.... THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Hurricane Dennis may not have done much property damage in this part of the state, but at the Mularz house we lost a tree and suffered storm related injuries when both my wife and I were apparently bitten by spiders when cleaning out the garage and later moving limbs from the yard. My bite resulted in a visit to the doctor, a shot and lots of antibiotics, while my wife's bite landed her in the hospital and left her with several long days of recovery. I never really paid much attention to spiders in the past, but you can bet now I will keep an eye open and be ready to act whenever one comes around.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

*** The Elba Tiger football family was shocked and deeply saddened over the weekend to learn of the sudden passing of Coach Mack Wood. Coach Wood had entered the hospital earlier in the week for minor surgery and had been released, but was readmitted after suffering pains related to the surgery and died early Sunday morning. Coach Wood was the all-time winningest football coach in the history of Elba High School and led the Tigers to a pair of state championships and two runner-up finishes in his long and stellar career at Elba, and last season was honored with a ceremony in which the field at Tiger Stadium was named "Coach Mack Wood Field." I considered myself to be a very close friend of Coach Wood when he was at Elba High and have stayed in touch since his retirement, and his sudden passing left me speechless and in disbelief. I guess I still remember the hard nosed football coach that pushed his players to be the best they could be and find it hard to believe that he could be beaten by anything, much less an illness. It will take me a long time to get over his passing, but I will never forget all the good times we shared on the sidelines and in the coaches office and I am thankful that the decision was made to name the field after him while he was still alive. The honor brought him to tears on that Friday night on "Coach Mack Wood Field," and I am sure more tears will trickle down the faces of many Tiger fans this coming season when they enter the stadium and look at the sign that bears his name.

*** Former Elba Tiger football standout Gavin Mauldin has been named a team captain for the upcoming 2005 football season at Tusculum College, in Greeneville, Tennessee. Pioneer head football coach Frankie DeBusk announced the four offensive and four defensive captains in early summer, and the former all-state lineman was included on the honored list. Mauldin, a 6-7, 300-pound offensive lineman, played in the final nine games of the season last year as a sophomore and during his career at Tusculum has been named to the South Atlantic Conference "Commissioner's Honor Roll" and the Athletic Director's "Honor Roll." Gavin is the son of left and Teresa Mauldin and is making a name for himself at the collegiate level at both the football field and in the classroom.

*** The Elba Dixie Boys All-Stars both saw their seasons come to an end last week at the District Tournament, in Troy. The 13-year-olds played hard in both games they played, but ran out of gas late in both games and were eliminated after two straight defeats, while the 14-year-olds won two games before falling to eventual champion Troy. Both teams represented their league well and the 14-year-olds closed out tournament play with a 7-2 record, a sub-district title and the "Sportsmanship Award" from the district tournament. Not a bad all-star experience.

*** In closing... I read an article last week in The Mobile Register concerning a kicking clinic held the week before at Gulf Shores and the fact only five high school players showed up for the camp only reinforced my belief that the kicking game is now being almost ignored at both the youth and high school level. The clinic was conducted by Larry Bielek, an All-American quarterback in high school, a three-year letterman at Michigan State and a former college coach at Michigan State, Pittsburgh, Colorado and New Mexico, and as Bielek stated in the interview, "One out of five plays in a football game is a special team's play." That fact has been overlooked recently at many high schools, Elba High included, where at junior high games there are no kickoffs and no punting. Years ago youngsters learned how to punt when they were still in junior high and carried the skills over to high school. Now a player may be a sophomore before he ever even tries to punt or kick a football. The next time you attend a high school game and you see a punter shank one or boot one twenty yards remember what I wrote. I know that you have to score to win and that defense wins ballgames, but the kicking game is a lost art that can and will win games along the way.

Place third at district

Dixie Boys All-Stars win two and lose two

The Elba Dixie Boys 14-Year-Old All-Stars saw their quest for a state tournament berth fall one win short last week when they posted a 2-2 record at the Dixie Boys District Baseball Tournament to place third in the seven-team event.

"This group of young men really worked hard during the past six weeks and won seven of the nine games they played in all-star competition," stated Coach Greg Corder. "Our goal was to make it to state, and even though we fell one win short, it was a great run for these guys and they gained a lot of experience they will be able to use as they continue their baseball careers in high school. I enjoyed coaching the players and want to thank them, the assistant coaches and the parents for their support."

Following are highlights of the district tournament:

DOETHAN AM. 9

ELBA 5

The Elba All-Stars fell behind 5-0 early and never recovered in a 9-5 opening round loss to the Dothan Americans.

Elba got out of an early jam when Dothan put runners on second and third with one out in the bottom of the first, but Dothan came right back in the second and combined two hits with one walk and three errors to plate five runs to take a 5-0 lead.

Elba came battling back in the top of the third and took advantage of three hits to cut the Dothan lead to 5-3. A lead-off walk to Joe Davis ignited the rally, while Andrew Head followed with a single and both later scored when Justin Winters delivered a one-out, two-run single. Winters scored on a key two-out single by A.J. Johnson and heading into the bottom of the third the Elba All-Stars were very much alive.

Dothan combined one hit with two walks in the top of the fourth to extend its lead to 7-3, only to see Elba stage another rally to cut the lead to 7-4 with one run in the fifth. The fifth inning run came when Dylan McCollough reached on a walk, Ethan Mount and an RBI single by A.J. Johnson.

Dothan scored one run in the bottom of the fifth without needing a hit to up its lead to 8-4, but Elba again answered the challenge and cut back into the lead in the top of the sixth. A punting. Years ago youngsters learned how to punt when they were still in junior high and carried the skills over to high school. Now a player may be a sophomore before he ever even tries to punt or kick a football. The next time you attend a high school game and you see a punter shank one or boot one twenty yards remember what I wrote. I know that you have to score to win and that defense wins ballgames, but the kicking game is a lost art that can and will win games along the way.

Dothan added an insurance

run in the bottom of the frame and held on to hand Elba the 9-5 defeat.

Justin Winters and A.J. Johnson both had 2 hits to lead Elba at the plate, while Trey Knight and Andrew Head both added 1 hit and scored 1 run and Matt Brunson and Bradley Wilson both added 1 hit.

ELBA 17

LIVERNE 7

The Elba All-Stars met Liverne for the third time in all-star competition in a second round elimination contest and for the third straight time had little trouble as they rolled to a big 17-7 win.

Elba jumped out to an early 1-0 lead in the top of the first when Justin Winters singled and later scored on an RBI single by Dylan McCollough.

Liverne answered the early Elba run and scored one run on three hits in the bottom of the first to pull even at 1-1.

The score didn't stay at 1-1 for very long; however, as Elba came back to the plate in the bottom of the second and combined seven hits with two walks to plate nine runs and grabbed a big 10-1 advantage!

Richard Cooks reached on an error to ignite the second inning fireworks, while walks to Joe Davis and Andrew Head loaded the bases with no outs. Matt Brunson followed with a two-run single to put Elba back on top 3-1, while Justin Winters, Dylan McCollough, Bradley Wilson, A.J. Johnson, Ethan Mount and Richard Cooks all delivered RBI singles as Elba circled the bases behind the seven straight hits and pulled out to a big 10-1 lead.

Matt Brunson had 4 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Ethan Mount added 3 hits and scored 3 runs and Richard Cooks added 3 hits and scored 2 runs. Justin Winters and Ashton Cuts both had 1 hit and scored 2 runs, while Joe Davis and Andrew Head both added 1 hit and scored 1 run and Dylan McCollough added 1 hit.

Liverne plated a run in the bottom of the second to cut the lead to 10-2, but Elba wasn't about to let its opponents get back in the game and plated three runs in the third and one in the fourth to increase its lead to 14-2.

Elba used five straight hits to plate the three runs in the third, with key hits being RBI singles by Bradley Wilson, A.J. Johnson and Ethan Mount. The fourth inning run came when Joe Davis singled with one out and later scored when Justin Winters drew a bases-loaded walk.

Liverne scored four runs in the bottom of the fifth to stay alive and cut the Elba lead to 14-6, but the late rally did little but change the final score as Elba plated three runs in the top of the seventh and easily held on to post the 17-7 win.

Elba's final three runs came on an RBI single by Bradley Wilson, a sacrifice bunt by A.J. Johnson and an RBI single by Trey Knight.



COME ON IN.... a catcher for the Elba Dixie Boys All-Stars waits at home plate for a base runner in tournament action.

(Photo by Laura Basley)

Dylan McCollough had 4 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Bradley Wilson added 3 hits and scored 3 runs and Justin Winters and A.J. Johnson both had 3 hits and scored 2 runs. Matt Brunson and Ethan Mount both had 2 hits and scored 1 run, while Joe Davis had 1 hit and scored 2 runs and Richard Cooks had 1 hit and scored 1 run.

ELBA 13

REHOBETH 2

The Elba All-Stars pulled ahead early and then pulled away late to eliminate Rehobeth 13-2 in the third round action.

Elba jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the top of the first on a two-run triple by Dylan McCollough and added a lone run in the second on a single by Ethan Mount and an RBI single by Andrew Head.

However, Rehobeth also showed up ready to play and scored one run in both the first and second innings to cut the Elba lead to 3-2.

Elba carried the slim 3-2 lead into the top of the fourth, where it added four runs to extend its lead to 7-2. Ethan Mount, Richard Cooks and Joe Davis all singled to open the fourth inning rally, while Andrew Head drew a walk and ended the scoring when Matt Brunson delivered a key two-run single.

Ashton Cuts reached on a walk and later scored on a one-out single by Richard Cooks to

up the Elba lead to 8-2 in the fifth, while the Elba All-Stars added five runs in the sixth to put an end to the game with the 13-2 advantage.

A lead-off double by Matt Brunson ignited the late Elba rally, while Justin Winters had an RBI single, as did teammates Ashton Cuts, Ethan Mount and Richard Cooks.

Dothan Nat. 12
ELBA 3
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Dothan scored two runs in the bottom of the second to grab an early 2-0 advantage. However,

My friend's fly-fishing outfit is quite a contrast to the first fly rod I used. My uncle taped an inexpensive fly reel to a bamboo pole, added some line guides, floating fly line and we were fly fishing. I can't prove it, but I'll bet that bamboo rig put more fish on the stringer than my friends high priced rig.

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When properly stocked in ponds, the grass carp control filamentous algae (pond moss) and underwater rooted plants. They also control floating duckweeds and water fern. When stocked at recommended rates, grass carp do not interfere with other fishes. They also do not interfere with fishing and can be caught with some difficulty on a hook and line using worms or grass as bait.

Larger grass carp (8 to 10 inches) should be stocked in ponds with established bass populations. Smaller fingerlings (2 to 6 inches) should be used only when predators are absent or in newly stocked ponds where the predators are about the same size as the grass carp. Smaller fingerlings can also be stocked in catfish ponds. Grass carp are readily eaten by bass and other fish-eating fish.

Recommended Stocking Rates Per Acre for Grass Carp
Bass Situation Slight Moderate Heavy
Ponds with bass: stock large carp.

When compared with other mechanical and chemical methods, the use of grass carp to control weeds in ponds is inexpensive. Results usually last about 3-5 years. You should restock grass carp at the first sign of weed growth.

Grass carp are very active swimmers and jumpers. Entire populations have been lost through spillways during heavy rains. Ponds that overflow can be equipped with spillway barriers that prevent fish from escaping. For some ponds this not a good idea if the barrier is not cleaned out on a regular basis. A clogged barrier can cause pond damage during heavy rains.

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SPORTS

At Dixie Boys tournament

Elba All-Stars suffer two straight losses

The Elba Dixie Boys 13-Year-Old All-Stars competed last week at the District Dixie Boys Baseball Tournament, in Troy, and dropped two straight games to place fifth in the seven-team event.

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

ENTERPRISE 8

ELBA 1

The Elba All-Stars battled Enterprise in opening round action and held their own through four innings before falling 8-1.

Enterprise took advantage of two errors in the bottom of the first inning to grab an early 1-0 lead, but Elba pitcher Kevin Allen handcuffed the Enterprise batters for the next three innings and allowed no runs on only two hits as the All-Stars remained very much in the game, trailing only 1-0 after four innings.

Enterprise combined three hits with two errors to plate four runs in the bottom of the fifth to extend its lead to 5-0, but then watched as Elba got on the scoreboard in the top of the sixth to pull within 5-1.

A one-out single by Garrett Stinson ignited the Elba rally, while the run came when Stinson scored on an RBI single by Davin Jackson.

Enterprise added three insurance runs in the bottom of the sixth to take an 8-1 lead and held on to post the opening round loss.

Justin Griswold, Lance Walden, Garrett Stinson and Devin Jackson all had 1 hit to lead Elba at the plate.

DOETHAN NAT. 12

ELBA 3

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ELBA'S KEVIN ALLEN.... prepares to pitch in last week's District Dixie Boys baseball Tournament, in Troy. Allen started both games in the tourney and kept the All-Stars within striking distance in losses to Enterprise and Dothan.

(Photo by Laura Basley)

Let's Go...

Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist

Live bait, fly rods and blue gills

I have a friend north of the Mason-Dixon line who is a fly fishing purist. He fishes with a fly rod that costs as much as a pretty good used Jon boat and small outboard would here in Alabama. He walks the stream banks turning over rocks and looking on the underside of leaves to see what insects are hatching. He then matches his findings with a hand tied fly he delicately casts to trout. He would never even consider using live bait on his favorite stream.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Front Row (Left to Right): Gabby Pope, Ashley Bailey, Kayla Rials, Cortlin Lee, Molly McGuire. Back Row (Left to Right): Meredith Brunson, April Finadore, Kynu Coleman, Maisie Thomas, Corinne Driggers.

The Elba Junior Varsity Cheerleaders attend UCA Cheerleader Camp

The Elba Junior Varsity High Cheerleaders attended UCA cheerleader camp at Troy University July 6th through the 9th. These girls worked throughout the summer preparing for their trip to Troy. Summer practices consisted of conditioning, learning cheers, mastering new stunts, and perfecting their dance for competi-

tion. On the first night of camp the squad performed in the Home Pom Competition. While at camp they also learned many new cheers, sidelines, and dances for use during the upcoming football and basketball seasons. The final day proved that hard work really does pay off! They received the following awards: Camp

Champion Cheer, Camp Champion Extreme Routine, Runner-up Home Pom Competition. They also received a spirit stick and all blue support or ribbons throughout the week. In addition to team awards, Cortlin Lee was a jump-off finalist and Kayla Rials was selected as a UCA All-Star Cheerleader.

Members of Congress tour humvee up-armour site

Congressional Representatives and Staff toured the Tank-automotive and Armaments Command's (TACOM) Arifan Forward Repair Activity (FRA) today, to see how tactical vehicles are repaired and up-armored to support the Soldier in South West Asia.

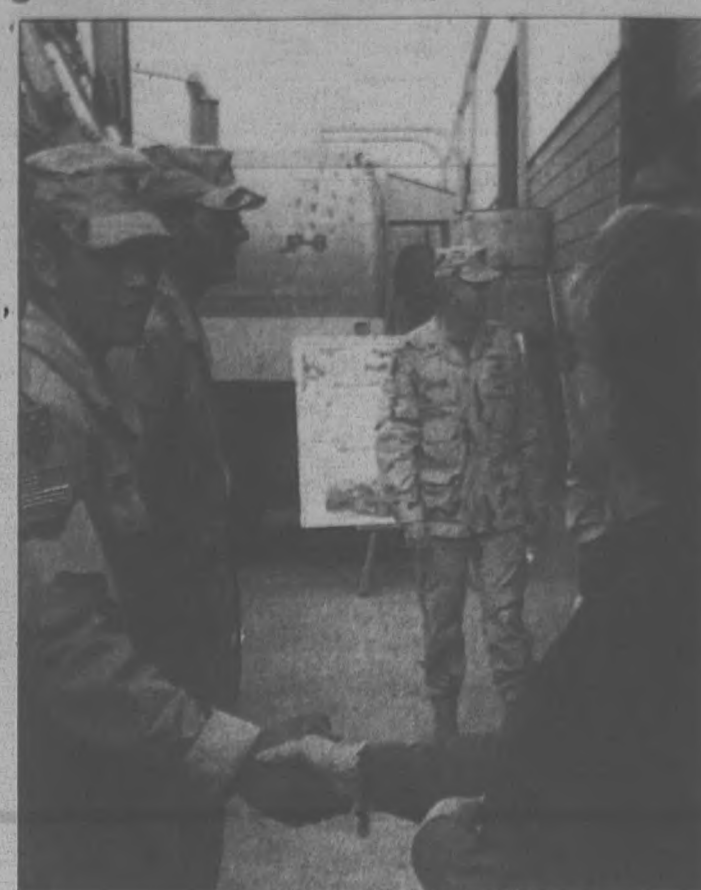
Representatives Geoff Davis, Kentucky, Madeline Bordallo, Territory of Guam, Mike Conway, Texas, Jim Cooper, Tennessee, Kenny Marchant, Texas, and Lynn Westmoreland of Georgia were shown where engines and transmissions are re-built and where Army tactical vehicles are armored by Army civilian employees.

Soldiers of the 7th Transportation Group, who drive armored convoy trucks into Iraq were also at the FRA to visit briefly with the delegation.

Brig Gen. Kevin Leonard, commander of the Army Materiel Command's Forward Support Element, South West Asia, conducted the tour at the Arifan facility, one of several forward repair centers AMC oversees in Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Qatar.

Forward Repair Activity Division Chief Michael Campbell, Anniston Army Depot, Anniston, Alabama and Shop Supervisor James Cromer from Red River Army Depot, Texarkana, Texas, assisted with the tour.

To date, the facility has



Congressional Delegation greets Soldiers in Kuwait. Representative Madeline Bordallo, Territory of Guam, visits with Spec. Tony Johnson, Elba, Ala., during a congressional tour of an up-armour facility at Camp Arifan, Kuwait. Johnson is a convoy truck driver transporting equipment to/from Iraq.

repaired and up-armored more than 32,000 vehicles, re-built more than 700 engines on tactical vehicles. Army and Navy civilians, Soldiers and contract civilians at the Arifan facilities have installed thousands of armor kits and air conditioners on tactical vehicles for use in

Iraq and Afghanistan, returning more than \$28.7 million of serviceable major components to the Army's supply system here.

The AMC has overall responsibility for all of the Army's pre-positioned equipment inventory and repair.

"They've (officers) worked together very well," McAliley said. "They've done so to protect the children of our community."

McAliley said the investigation began after Officer John Greene of the New Brockton Police Department began looking into a report that a single parent was leaving her 11-year-old female child unattended at

worked to help others become more confident and in control of their finances," said Ivey. "I have a passion for financial literacy. These monthly financial tips provide practical tools for Alabama's citizens to responsibly manage their personal finances."

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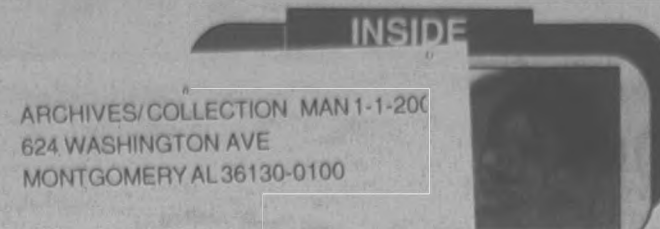
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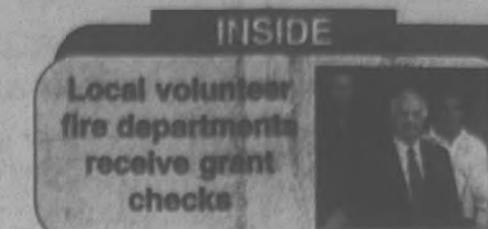
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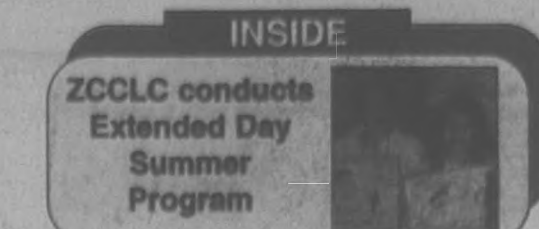
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The Elba Clipper

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 28, 2005

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Warrants issued for arrest of nine individuals

District Attorney reveals investigation of sex-related crimes involving children

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Twelfth Judicial Circuit District Attorney Gary McAliley revealed Friday afternoon, July 22, the results of a joint investigation by the New Brockton Police Department, Elba Police Department, District Attorney's office and the Coffee County Sheriff's Department.

During a press conference held at the Elba Courthouse, McAliley said several warrants of arrest were issued Friday for sex-related crimes involving children. He said Coffee County law enforcement officers received two reports earlier this year, and investigations by the officers led to Friday's announcement.

"They've (officers) worked together very well," McAliley said. "They've done so to protect the children of our community."

McAliley said the investigation began after Officer John Greene of the New Brockton Police Department began looking into a report that a single parent was leaving her 11-year-old female child unattended at

night while she, the mother, worked as a bartender. He said the investigation revealed that after the mother would leave for work, other similar aged children would come over to the residence.

"Adult males and one adult female would then arrive and on occasion furnish drugs and engage in various sexual activities with the children," McAliley said. "On one occasion, an adult from Covington County manufactured a video featuring the children engaging in sexual activities."

The district attorney said the adult, a female, can be heard on the video giving explicit instructions.

McAliley said a second report of sexual activities involving children led the investigation to the Elba area. He said officers discovered that parents were dropping their female children off at a local skating rink in Elba, leaving them unattended.

After the parents left, McAliley said non-related individuals would pick the children up and take them to various locations in Coffee County where sexual activities with the

children would take place. The children then would be taken back to the skating rink before their parents returned to pick them up for the evening.

McAliley stressed that the skating rink had no part in the incidents other than it happened to be the place where the children were being dropped off.

"To all parents of young children, do your best to know where your children are," said McAliley. "Don't assume they are safe from harm if dropped off at an amusement business, and don't leave your children without proper adult supervision."

On Friday, he said warrants of arrest were issued for the following persons in regards to the above mentioned reports:

• Andrew Baxley, age 20, of Elba, Ala., charged with rape in the second degree. McAliley said his victim was 15-years-old.

• Tim Baxley, age 19, of Elba.

Please See CRIME, Page 3



TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DISTRICT ATTORNEY Gary McAliley (front, center) was joined by officers from the Elba and New Brockton police departments Friday afternoon, July 22, for a press conference held at the Elba courthouse announcing the issuance of warrants for arrest regarding various sex related crimes. Joining McAliley was (from left): Andy Cunter, investigator with the Elba Police Department; Dale Grimes, assistant chief for the Town of New Brockton; John Greene, New Brockton Police officer; and Tony Harrison, investigator with the Elba Police Department.

Elba City Council lowers speed limit on portion of Smith Avenue

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council approved amendments to the annual operating budget to reflect the increase in the cost of gasoline. The corresponding increase of income to keep the budget in balance is reflected in state and federal grants received.

The council approved a resolution reducing the speed limit on Smith Avenue from the 203 Bypass to the dead end where the crooked bridge was removed. Signs will be posted cutting speeds down to 35 and then to 25 MPH at the lower end of the street. This will be effective immediately.

The council agreed to again waive the noise ordinance from 9 A.M. until 5 P.M. on August 6th for the Undefined Customs Car Show "Street Heat 2005". It will again be held in the parking lot of the closed shopping center on the Troy Highway, across from Legion Field.

Police Chief Freddy Hanchey introduced two new police officers to the governing body. Richard Moss, more recently with the Red Level Police Department, and Ashley Paul, a former Elba police officer and more recently with the Enterprise department, are now on duty patrolling the streets of Elba. Moss, an ordained minister will also serve as the department Chaplain.

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In her continued effort to provide sound financial advice to Alabamians, Treasurer Kay Ivey today announced her financial tip for the month of July. This month, Ivey is encouraging individuals to keep a strict record of expenses for one month.

"Take next month and record your expenses," said Ivey.

"Write down everything and then review it at the end of the month. Categorize your spending and you'll begin to see where you spend and can save. You'll be surprised by how much you can begin to save once you really know where your money is going!"

The Alabama Treasurer partnered with the Bond Market

Foundation last year to provide Alabamians with online money management resources. Through this partnership, the websites www.alabama.tomorrowsmoney.org and www.alabama.ahorrand.org <<http://www.alabama.ahorrand.org>> (ahorrand means

"saving" in Spanish) provide easily-accessible information on personal finance concepts to help individuals begin to save and invest. The sites may be accessed from the Treasurer's website and include information for women, young people, Spanish-speaking Americans, and those who have experienced an unexpected change in their

lives. Tomorrowsmoney.org is a strictly nonprofit website. Nothing is bought or sold on the site and the user's privacy is protected.

Ivey draws her monthly advice from the Ten Simple Steps to Start Saving Money portion of the Tomorrow's Money website.

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